(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the assistance being provided by the Centre to boost tourism in the tribal areas; and

(d) the details of assistance provided during the last three years to the private sector for the tourism development, State-wise and institution-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism provides Central financial assistance on the basis of project proposals prioritized every year in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations including Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh to boost tourism which also includes the tribal dominated areas, for the following schemes:

(1) Product Infrastructure and Destination Development
(2) Integrated Development of Tourism Circuits
(3) Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects

Projects proposals received, complete in all respects, are processed on *inter-se* priority basis and funds released, subject to availability under the respective head. The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned the following projects for development of tribal areas in Chhattisgarh:

(i) Integrated development of Jagdalpur, District Bastar in Chhattisgarh for Rs. 277.50 lakhs during 2002-03

(ii) Rural Tourism Project Village Nagarnar in Bastar District for Rs. 48.00 lakhs during 2003-04.

(d) Funds are provided to the State Governments/UT Administrations for implementation of CFA projects.

Setting up of budget hotels

2296. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of budget hotels proposed to be set up by Government in co-operation with private sector in the country, during the current financial year;

(b) the number of private operators who have come forward to set up budget hotels; and

(c) what are the incentives that are given by Government for encouraging private operators to set up budget hotels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) No proposal of the private sector to set up budget hotels in co-operation with Government is pending in the current financial year.

(c) In order to augment accommodation in budget category of hotels, the Department of Tourism has introduced a scheme 'Incentive to Accommodation Infrastructure' during the 10th Five Year Plan. Under this scheme, capital subsidy is granted to new hotel projects in 1 to 3 star and Heritage Basic category in the country except the four metropolitan cities, Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.

The incentive is granted in the form of capital grant of 10% of the total principal loan taken from designated financial institutions/Scheduled Banks or upto Rs. 25 lakhs to 1 star hotels, Rs. 50 lakhs to 2 star hotels, Rs. 75 lakhs to 3 star and the Heritage Basic category hotels, whichever is less.

Construction of ropeways in hilly areas

2297. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to encourage the construction of rope ways in the hilly areas of the country in order to minimise the money and time to be spent on the construction of roads there;

(b) if so, the percentage of population using the rope ways constructed in the hilly States; and

(c) the details of the rope ways to be constructed in the hilly States of the country during the present plan period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism assists the State Governments/UTs for development of Tourist Infrastructure under its schemes of Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/